A

True Reporte of

three ſtraunge and wonderful Accidents, lately hapened at PERNAW, a Cittie in Lifflande.

Wherein is conteyned a Propheſie of the greate Dearth & Famine, which (by reaſon of the warres in thoſe partes) hath there come to paſſe in the yeare laſt paſt, 1602.

And alſo of the great Victorie lately atchiued by the great Sophy, who with the aide & aſſiſtance of the King of Perſia, ouerthrew the Turkiſh Emperour with all his forces neere vnto thé Riuer Euphrates.

Truely tranſlated out of the Dutch printed Coppie, printed at Nimmegen,

At London printed for William Barley. 1603.

¶ A true Report of three strange accidents which lately happened at Pernaw, a Cittie in Lifflandé &c.

We finde (gentle reader) in ancient Hiſtories, and principally in the workes of that famous and learned writer Flauius Ioſephus lib. 7. cap. 12. that before the lamentable and woful deſtruction of Hieruſalem, there appeared many ſtrange ſignes both in the aire, and among the people, namely there was ſeene right aboue the ſaid Cittie a dreadfull ſtarre, in forme and faſhion of a Sword: as alſo that in the darke night cleare day appeared and was ſeene in the Temple: that a Cow brought forth a Lambe, and which was moſt ſtrange, a certaine man went vp and downe among the people, continually for the ſpace of ſeauen yeares before, not ceaſing with woful cries, to forwarne and admoniſh the people to forſake their wickednes: fore ſhewing the deſtruction of the place.

The very like, yea and almoſt the verie ſame accidents ſignes and wonders, haue lately happened within this wylome moſt pleaſante Countrie of Livonia, in

the Cittie of Pernaw: for in the yeare 1599. vppon Saint Lukes day, a certaine Merchant of the said Cittie, hauing (according to the custome of the Countrie) enuited many of his freinds and Neighbours to a feast at his house, among the rest also, enuited thither a certaine old man of the same Cittie whose name was Stile, a man of the age of foure score yeares or thereabout, knowne to all the inhabitants there to be borne deafe and dumbe, and had soe continued all his life tyme to that day.

This olde man being placed at the table among the company, and seing the great and horrible abuse of the good guiftes and creatures of God which were there prouided, by those abhominable vices of gluttony and drunkennes, and not being able to endure the sight therof, by the iust iudgment of God presently leapt ouer the Table, and with a fierce and sterne countenance, turning his eyes toward the people, and wringing his hands as a signe of the great sorrow which he conceiued at his hart, burst forth in these speaches to the Companie which were present.

Alas quoth he (my deare freinds) how can you be thus merrie, when a man seeing this abhominable abuse, to the high displeasure of almightie God, might well loathe to liue any longer in so wicked a time. Therfore (deare brethren and sisters) repent, repent I say, for the punnishment of the Lord God is neare at hand: with greate stormes and ouerflowing waters, wil he destroy the wicked, and nothing but affliction and punnishment shalbe their portion.

Such dearth that yeare shalbe that the people shall not finde any foode for nourishment, nor any way to escape by reason of the troublesome warre to come: great plague pestilence and murren shall destroy both younge and old, therfore liue ye as if presently ye should die, for surely it is at hand: great and horrible wonders shall ye heare,

and

and ſée many ſtrange and monſtrous Children borne, as a loking-glaſſe both for rich and poore.

The people with great admiration and aſtoniſhment came running together to ſée this miracle which had happenned, and the Company which were enuited being daſht with this ſuddaine accident, haueing now giuen ouer their paſtime and being ſore amaſed were with one accord attentiue to the ſpeaches of the olde man, perceiuing aſwell by his ſtrange geſtures as by the ſuddainnes of his ſpeach that this was Gods onely doings: and being moued with great feare and horror, asked him at what time all thoſe things ſhould happen: whereuppon the ſaid dumbe man thus preſentlie replied.

Ere the yeare 99 be come and paſt, the Lord God in his iuſt anger and wrath will draw his ſword, therfore repent you of your ſinnes, for the day of iudgment is at hand.

Theſe words ſpoken, the man was againe bereft of his ſpeach, and became dumbe as before, fæling him ſelfe preſently ſicke, and the next day after he died: and was honorably buried, being accompanied to ỹ Church, by an infinite number of the inhabitantes there, whoe greatly lamented for his death.

The nert day after his buriall, there was a certaine woman brought forth a man childe, with a naturall face before, and behind like the ſcull of a dead man, his right arme alſo was like a Sword, and the other like a Rodde: which child liued two dayes and no longer.

After this the Lord ſhewed an other, no leſſe fearefull ſigne of his indignation and wrath, for iuſt ouer the ſaid Cittie of Pernaw, was perfectly ſæne in the cleare Firmament or Skie, a Bære and Coffin, couered all with blacke: which ſight endured from foure of the clocke in the afternoone, till eleuen in the ſame Night.

Therefore good chriſtians, conſider firſt the ſuddaine

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and fearefull ſpeech of the Dumbe, ſecondly, loke vppon the monſtrous birth and ſhape of this Childe, and laſtly, meditate vppon the fearfull ſigne ſeene in the Ayre, and thereupon with an humble and penitent hart, imagine the Tragicall end of all, pittying the afflicted Countrye and people of Lyffeland, and let their hard fortune be a warning to thee, that thou ſinne no more preſumptuouſly.

And as ỹ heathen Poet ſayeth, Fœlix quẽ faciunt aliena pericula cautum, that is to ſaye, happy is he which can beware by other mens perilles: make thy ſelfe happie with this warning, and doe not with the wicked and ſtubborne Iewes, contemne and ſcorne, this gentle admonition, and fore-warning of the Dumbe, leaſt God in his Juſtice bring a worſe Plague vpon vs, then he did eyther vpon thoſe Iewes or vppon this Countrey of Lyffeland.

FINIS.

A

True Reporte of

the great Victorie lately atchiued by the great SOPHY: who with the aide and assistance of the

the king of Persia, ouerthrew the Turkish Emperour with all his forces, neere vnto the riuer Euphrates.

Truly translated out of the high Dutch Copie printed at Hamborrow. 1602.

At London printed for William Barley.
1603.

¶ A true Report, of the late victorie atchiued by the great Sophy: together with the king of Persia, vpon the Turkes &c.

WHereas the great Turkish Emperour with all his Armie, munition, and preparation, was come to the Ryuer of Euphrates, being strong both of Horse & foot, about three hundred Thousand men, and perceauing that Morath generall of ȳ Persians, had caused the Bridge to be pulled down there, ȳ was made ouer the said Riuer, and that he was marched on th'other side, and hard by a mountaine did prepare and strengthen himselfe with ȳ forces sent vnto him by ȳ great Sophy, with those hee had before, so that the Persians were stronge about Foure-score and tenne Thousand men, amongst the which were about twenty Thousand, whereof every one of them, had two horses for a man.

The Turke could not haue so much inteligence to vnderstand if the Sophy himselfe were personally present in the Campe, or no: or if he yet were in Persia for more forces, which he especially did feare.

Because therfore he could not passe ouer the Riuer,

he in all haſt cauſed the bridge to be buſſded againe, and ſent ouer the ſaid Riuer two Gennerals called Bellerbyes with their forces, to wit Bellerby of Grecia and Bellerby of Natolia, but he himſelfe tarried on this ſide of the water till the next morning.

Now about two houres before day breaking the Generall Morethfell in the Campe of Bellerby of Grecia, who had encamped himſelfe ſomwhat farre off from the Bellerby of Natolia, and moſt valiently came vppon him with ſuch a force and power, that he vppon a ſodaine moſt ſpædily did ouercome all his Enſignes and Tents, and ouerthrew and ſlew all his Campe.

The Soldiers of the Campe of the Bellerby of Natolia hærwithäll were put in ſuch a feare, that they ranne in to the Riuer, and paſſed ouer to the Campe of the great Turke,

The Turke ſæing this ill ſucceſſe, preſently planted his Ordenaunce in good order one by an other, and placed the ſame right againſt the Enemie which was on the other ſide of the water: and becauſe they ſhould not ſæ the Ordinaunce, he commaunded that ſome Companies ſhould be placed and ſtand before the ſaid Ordinance, with this token, that when the peices of Ordinance ſhould be all in readines and charged, they ſhould ſound Alarme and the ſaid Companies ſtanding before the ſaid Ordinance ſhould part aſide, and ſo to diſcharge the ſaid peices of Ordinance vppon the Enemie.

This determination being agræd vppon, and fire being put to the aforeſaid Ordenance, many of them did burſt and fly abroad, and ſlew and hurt a notable number of men, yea and many of the Turkiſh Armie: by the noiſe, cry, and tumult wherof, many Horſes and Mules, with thoſe that were on the backs of them did leape into the Riuer and were drowned,

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The Sophians and Persians which had sustained great losse of men by meanes of the Ordinance, retired on the other side of the Mountaine, and it was supposed that at that time were slaine and shot to death about Twentie thousand Sophians and Persians.

They retireing so backwards as is aforesaid, the Turke with all his whole Armie passed ouer the River, and marched towards the Mountaine where the Sophians were encamped, who had deuided themselues into foure partes or squadrons, kéeping close together: and when they sawe that the Turkes came vppon them, they were glad, and most valiently met and fought with them so that on both sides many men were slaine: but the night ouertoke them, which was to the aduantage of the Sophians for it was not possible that they could resist and withstand longer against the great force and power of the Turkes, therefore by night they all did flye to the Mountaine, the Turkes for darkenesse could not follow them, as they were minded and would faine haue done and so the Turke tarrying in the fieldes that night purposed and concluded the next day to leaue all his footemen with the peces of Ordinance behind him and with horsemen onely to pursue the Enemies and by these meanes vnawares to surprise and take the Towne of Tauris, before those of the Towne should heare of the ouerthrowe of the Sophy.

But on the other side, the Persians and Sophians, which diligently did looke to themselues, and had great care to the matter, concluded with themselues, that ten thousand men which were the day before newly arriued, should marche against the Turkes, and when the Turkes should come vppon them, they should flee, as if they were ouercome, and the rest of the Sophians and Persians, which were yet about twentie thousand, should come be-

hinde the Turks, and compaſſed them betwæn them both, and without doubte they ſhould ſpæd well, and ouercome their enemies. The next morning, the Turke ſæing that the enimie was yet ſo neare at hand, he thought they had not bin able to fly any further for darknes, came vpon thē with great force: but they preſently according to their agræment did fly, and the Turkes not thinking on this martial pollicie, did purſue them till none, and being come to a ſmall River, becauſe they were somwhat wearie, and tired, encamped themſelues on the ſaid Riuers ſide and there dined: and after dinner the freſh Turkes leauing the wearied and tyred Companies with all their treaſures and ſpoiles behinde them, thinking the next night vnawares to ſurprize the Towne of Tauris, did purſue and chaſe the Perſians and Sophians, in their fained flight.

But when they came to the Towne, in all haſt a poſt came to the great Turke about two houres in the night, who certified vnto him that the ennimie had ouerthrown and ſlaine all his footemen which he had left behinde, and that they had gotten the pieces of Ordinance, and ſtill were coming with all their forces behinde him.

The Turke hearing ſuche newes, and thinking on the great treaſure that he had left behind him, preſently went back againe, and the Perſians and Sophians which hertofore did flie, turned alſo backe againe, and ſaine that their forces did follow and purſue the Turks behinde. The Turkes which tarried with the treaſure on the ſaid water ſide, perceiuing their Enemies did breake vp and runne away, the Perſians and Sophians being before and behinde the Turkes, came fiercely and valiantly vppon them, and did great hurt amongſt them.

The great Turke much diſcontented, ſeing that the

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Enimyie had so craftilie compassed and brought him in the middle betwæne them, begun a most harde and hote battaile, wherin the Sophians and Persians got the victorie: which when the Turkes saw, they did fly out on the one side, for otherwise it was not possible for them to escape.

The Turkish Emperour himselfe, when he sawe that all his forces did fly, and that all his Ensignes were taken, did likewise fly to saue his life, and came with a most swifte horse to Amasia, and tarried in Natolia till the reamant of his Arme (which was verie little) was gathered together: for the Turkes did nothing but flie all the Night, and al those which were slack in running, were all cut downe: and those that came ouer the River pulled downe the bridge made by them before, to the end the Persians should not pursue them: but the Persians and Sophians being glad of the victorie, as Conquerours of the fielde, went home againe: although they would faine haue prosecuted their victorie, had not the most part of their forces bæn slaine

Performed in Anno Domini. 1602

FINIS.

A

True and Lamen-

table Reporte of the miſerable & pitifull preſent ſtate of the Cuntrey of LIVONIA, (commonly called Lyffelande) concerning the great Dearth & Famine now being there, [by reaſon of the VVarres] in ſuch ſorte that one Neighbour and Friende doth kill an other and eate them, the like neuer before, eyther ſeene or hearde of.

(.*.)

Written by credible & great perſonages of that Cuntrey, vnto the reuerend and learned Conrado Schluſſelborrow, Doctor in Diuinitie, and Superintendant in the Citty of Stralſunde in Suetia.

Truly tranſlated out of the high Dutch Copie printed at Hamborrow. 1602.

At London printed for William Barley.
1603.

A

¶ A true Relation of the miserable and pitifull state of the Cuntrey of LIVONIA, afflicted with great Dearth Famine &c.

MOst Reuerend and learned Doctor, occasion seruing at this present time I coulde not omitte to certifie vnto your worship the lamentable and pittifull estate of this sore afflicted country of Lyffland, for surely the iust wrath of God by reason of our manifold sinnes, is kindled against vs.

And first by reason of these warrs, many thousand men were slaine and put to ẏ swoorde on both sides, as wel Germanes, Dutchmen, Swedens, Poloniãs: as also other nations, amongst the which many without any respect of person, sexe or age most cruelly were racked, martyred and burned, yea the fruite in the Mothers Wombe was not spared, the little Infants were taken and held vp by the fœte, and without any mercie most barbarously massacred and cut into peeces.

Secondly, there was heere such wonderful and strang diseases and sicknesses almost amongst al men, that they did fall down in the stretes and fieldes, & became madde and senceles yea and the most part died thereof.

Thirdly there was neuer such great dearth & famine, especially amongst the poore Husbandmen and Countrie folke, insomuch that many did eate the dead carions that they found in the fields, as Horses, Cats, Dogges, & also the very shoes of their feete, yea one Christian body hath eaten an other: and especially which is most wonderfull and neuer heard of before. That in the Towne of Salis two Daughters did eate their deceased Father, and also a woman did eate her deceased husbande. And at another place one neighbour sent his child to one of his neighbors to fetch or carry something, who toke the child and cut his throate, and whilest he was taking out the intrailes, the Father of the child [who did maruell of the long tarrying of his Childe came and perceauing that his Childe was slaughtered in manner aforesayd, was in a mighty rage, & fought with his neighbour who likewise killed ỹ father of ỹ child, & dressed him for meate & eate him. Such fearefull and heauy accidentes doe daylye happen with vs in Lyffland. God almighty most graciously deliuer vs and shew his mercy vpon vs. Dated at Pernaw, the fourth of September. Anno 1602.

¶ A

A true Copie of a Letter written & sent from the Castle of Osel, of the miserable estate at this présent time of Lyffland: Written by M. Frauncis Rappen the elder Gentl. vnto the reuerend father M. Peter Dvdderstedten, Preacher in ỹ Cittie of new Pernaw.

(.˙.)

REuerend and learned father, Friend and Kinsman. I and all my houshold with all our hărts are very sorry and most pittifully grieued to heare the miserable estate, which you by reason of the fearefull raising of warres, haue sustayned, we likewise here in these places are troubled and plagued with famine (God Almighty shew his mercy vppon vs, and saue vs and deliuer vs from it) insomuch that if it pleased God we had rather to chuse a plague for it. Séeing that not onely the poore people starueing and famishing do fall downe and die in the stréetes and wayes, going one neighbour to an other, and doe still striue and fight for dead cattell which die of the murren, and most grædely doe eate the carions of the fielde and doe not regard how

vnnaturall it is to deuoure dead swyne, dogges & cattes: but also one Christian and friend killeth & eateth another, the parents doe dresse for meate their children when they are dead by reason of the great Dearth, for the Enemie hath wasted & spoiled all the Countrie, and robbed euery one of their goods, for which causes you haue bene constrained to go w̄ your wife and familie out of these countries into Germanie.

And although wee would faine giue double money for Corne, wee can here get none seeing all is gone, partly spoiled and wasted vpon the Fieldes, and partly by reason of the cold Summer it could not ripe, insomuch that all my Tennantes cannot furnish nor prouide me of a bushel of corne to releeue my poore familie, who for very hunger do starue and famish which most pittifully doeth greeue my harte.

I pray the Lord of Heauen mercifully to looke vppon vs, and deliuer vs from this most lamentable estate.

Dated at Osel the 22. of September. 1602.

Your worships friend

Francis Rappen the elder.

FINIS.